IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Matthew J. Searle

PATENT APPLICATION

Serial No.:

Herewith

Group Art Unit: Examiner:

Filed: For:

Improvements in or relating to the heating of products

Preliminary Amendment

Hon. Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above application, please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Please cancel, without prejudice or disclaimer, Claims 1 to 43 of the claims as published with the International Application of which this application comprises the US National Phase application, and add new claims 44 to 63 as indicated below. New Claims 44, 53 and 60 are independent.

1 through 43. (Cancelled)

44. (New) A portable apparatus for heating consumable food product of the type comprising an outer wrapper and a filling, the apparatus comprising:

a support configured and arranged to support a foodstuff;

a vapor injection nozzle arranged to penetrate the filling of the foodstuff when the foodstuff is arranged for heating on the support, and

a heater unit that is user activatable to enable chemical reagents separately contained within the heater unit to contact one another and react to generate a hot vapor for heating the foodstuff;